RUNNING WITH THE DEVIL

KINGPIN™

MARVEL

#2

ROSENBERG
TORRES
BOYD

I THINK I'M GONNA DIE.
YOU JUST KILLED ME.

WHY WOULD YOU TAKE ME HERE, ORLANDO?
YOU DON'T LIKE IT?
THIS IS THE BEST PIZZA I'VE EVER HAD! YOU KNOW I HAVE IMPULSE CONTROL PROBLEMS.
ORLANDO PEREZ'S STOOP. EAST NEW YORK.

IT'S JUST PIZZA, SARAH.
MAKE SURE TO TELL THE CORONER THAT AFTER I O.D. ON CHEESE.
YOU TRYIN' TO LOSE WEIGHT OR SOMETHING?

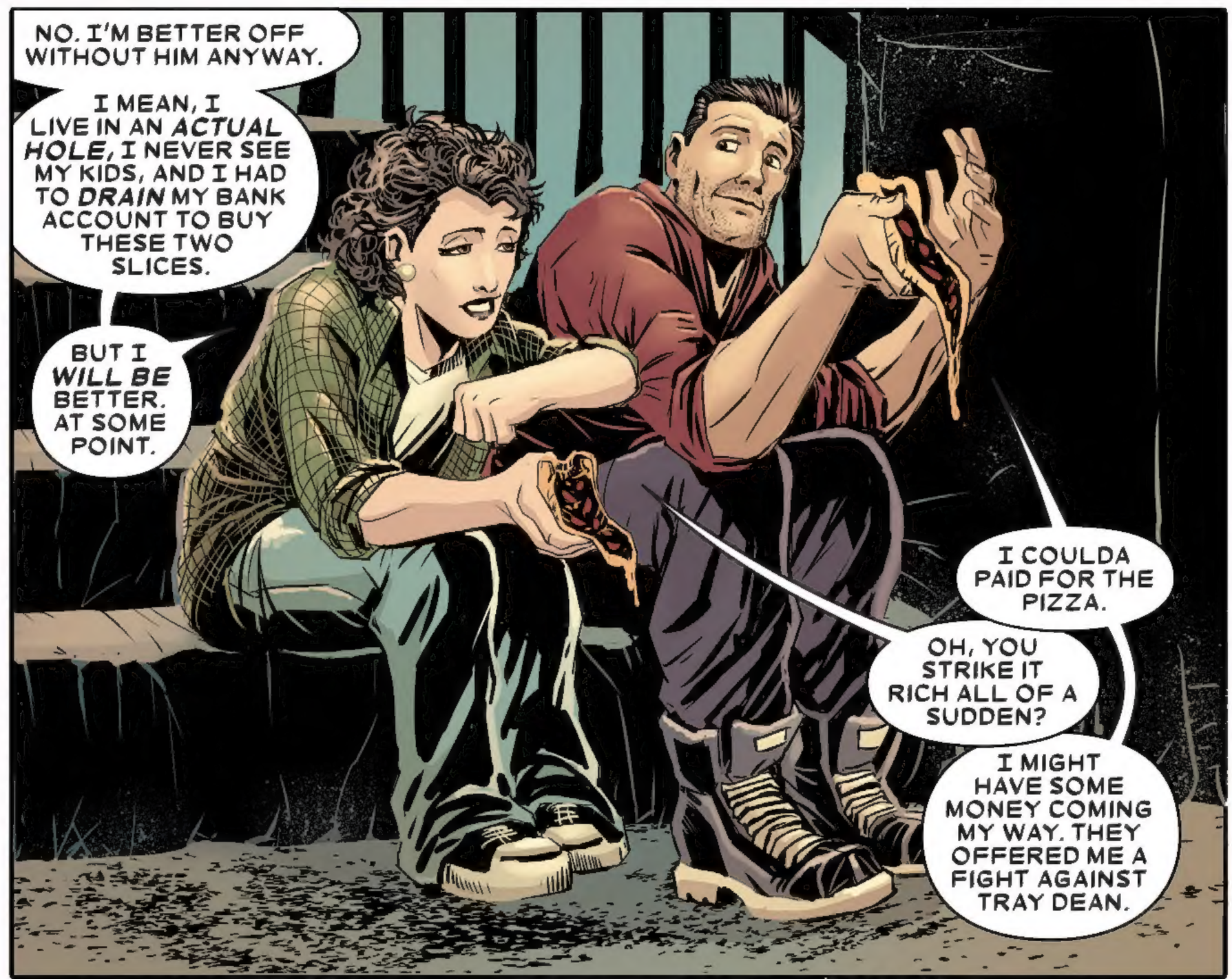
EXCUSE ME?!?
NO! I MEANT, LIKE, I DIDN'T KNOW IF YOU WERE TRYIN' TO *LOOK GOOD* TO WIN YOUR MAN BACK OR SOMETHIN'. YOU *DO* LOOK GOOD.
NICE. YOU LOOK NICE.

FOR A BOXER, YOU SURE DON'T BACKPEDAL WELL. AND I'M PRETTY SURE IT WASN'T MY EATING PIZZA THAT SPLIT UP ME AND MY HUSBAND.
WHAT WAS IT?
THE USUAL BORING STUFF. *MONEY* STRESS. *WORK* STRESS. MY DRINKING A LITTLE TOO MUCH...

HIM @*$%!#& OUR BABYSITTER A LITTLE TOO MUCH.

OH, MAN. THAT'S SOME @#!$*&! YOU WANT ME TO TALK TO HIM?

NO.

WELLLLLL...

NO. I'M BETTER OFF WITHOUT HIM ANYWAY.
I MEAN, I LIVE IN AN *ACTUAL HOLE*, I NEVER SEE MY KIDS, AND I HAD TO *DRAIN* MY BANK ACCOUNT TO BUY THESE TWO SLICES.
BUT I *WILL BE* BETTER. AT SOME POINT.
I COULDA PAID FOR THE PIZZA.
OH, YOU STRIKE IT RICH ALL OF A SUDDEN?
I MIGHT HAVE SOME MONEY COMING MY WAY. THEY OFFERED ME A FIGHT AGAINST TRAY DEAN.

OH MY GOD, ORLANDO! THAT'S AMAZING!
I'M NOT SURE I'M GONNA TAKE IT.

WHAT ARE YOU AFRAID OF?
THAT HE'LL KNOCK ME OUT IN FRONT OF MY MOMS.
DON'T BE A BABY.
HE'S REAL GOOD.
SO ARE YOU.
WELL, IF I TAKE THE FIGHT, PIZZA'S ON ME NEXT TIME.
I ACTUALLY JUST GOT A REALLY BIG OFFER, TOO. WILSON FISK WANTS ME TO WRITE HIS BIOGRAPHY.
THE KINGPIN?!
NOBODY REALLY CALLS HIM THAT.
THEY DO WHERE I COME FROM. HE PAYING YOU WELL?
IF I TAKE IT, YEAH.
SO WHY WOULDN'T YOU TAKE IT? YOU WORRIED HE'S GONNA KNOCK YOU OUT IN FRONT OF YOUR MOMS?
CUTE. I DON'T KNOW. HE'S...I DON'T TRUST HIM.
THAT'S A GOOD REASON.

RUNNING WITH THE DEVIL **The costumed vigilante known as DAREDEVIL has been fighting crime in the dark streets and on the foggy, cold rooftops of New York City for years. In that time he's fought some deadly men and women: assassins, crime lords, killers and thieves. One of Daredevil's most dangerous adversaries is the underworld mastermind known as the KINGPIN.**

In his time, WILSON FISK has done deplorable things. He has blackmailed rivals. He has twisted the law. He has killed. He allowed no one, not even his hated foes Daredevil and Spider-Man, to stand in his way. For years, he was the head of organized crime in his hometown of New York City, but he has new plans. He has approached SARAH DEWEY, a down-on-her-luck but former Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist, to pen his biography. She's uneasy about working for a gangster, former or otherwise, but Fisk's not looking to mask the truth—he wants his story out there, warts and all, so he can move past the public perception of the...

KINGPIN

"MESSES OF MEN"

WRITER MATTHEW ROSENBERG ARTIST BEN TORRES COLOR ARTIST JORDAN BOYD LETTERER VC'S TRAVIS LANHAM

COVER ARTIST JEFF DEKAL VARIANT COVER ARTIST KERON GRANT VENOMIZED VARIANT COVER ARTIST CLAYTON CRAIN

TITLE PAGE DESIGN CARLOS LAO ASSOCIATE EDITOR MARK BASSO EDITOR MARK PANICCIA

EDITOR IN CHIEF AXEL ALONSO CHIEF CREATIVE OFFICER JOE QUESADA PRESIDENT DAN BUCKLEY EXECUTIVE PRODUCER ALAN FINE

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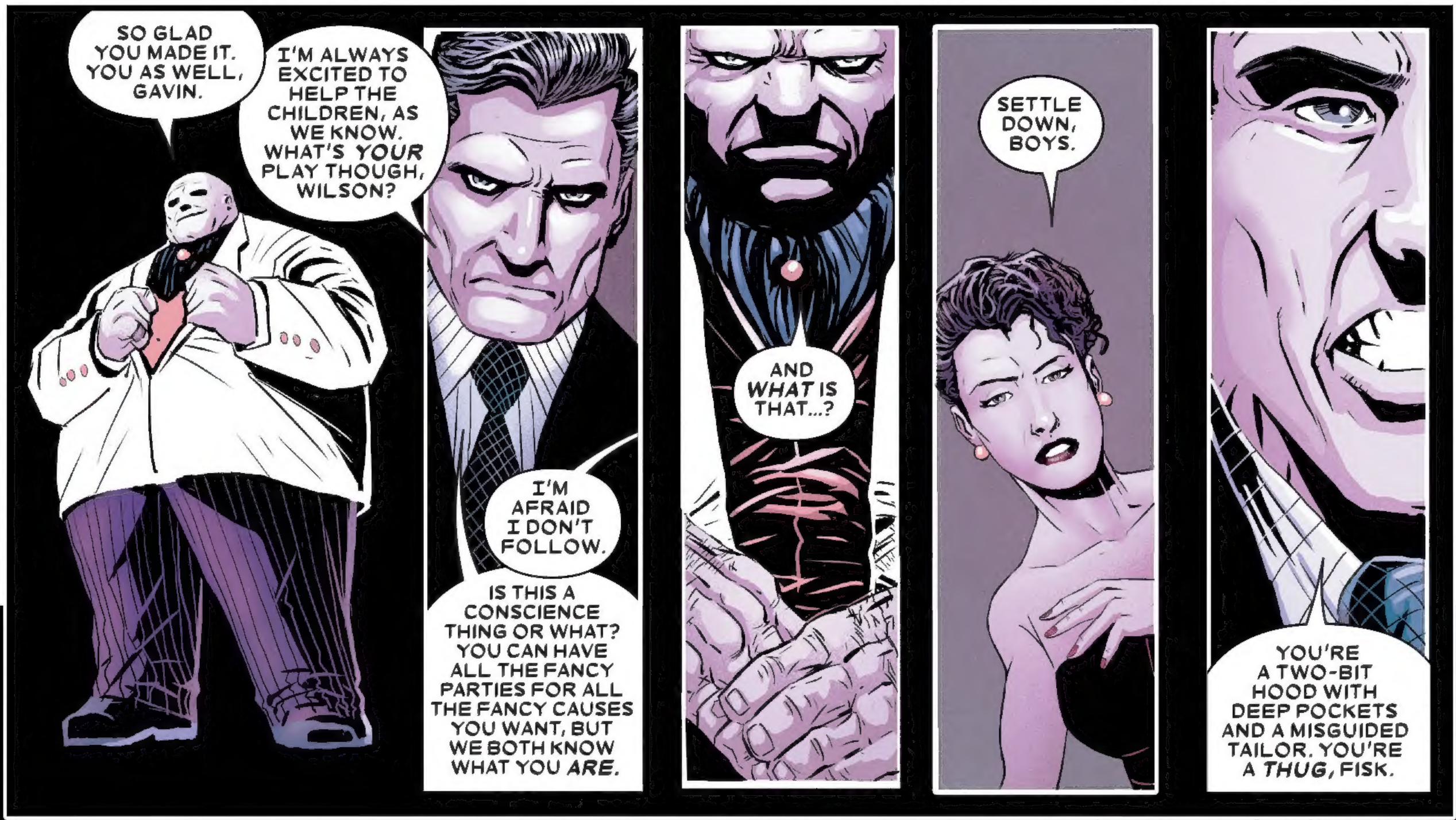
THAT NIGHT.

AHH, MS. DEWEY. SO GLAD YOU COULD JOIN US AFTER ALL. MR. FISK WASN'T SURE IF YOU'D MAKE IT.

NEITHER WAS I.

WELL, IT'S ALL FOR A GOOD CAUSE.

Welcome to the VANESSA GIVES CHARITY BANQUET


SO GLAD YOU MADE IT. YOU AS WELL, GAVIN.
I'M ALWAYS EXCITED TO HELP THE CHILDREN, AS WE KNOW. WHAT'S *YOUR* PLAY THOUGH, WILSON?
I'M AFRAID I DON'T FOLLOW.
IS THIS A CONSCIENCE THING OR WHAT? YOU CAN HAVE ALL THE FANCY PARTIES FOR ALL THE FANCY CAUSES YOU WANT, BUT WE BOTH KNOW WHAT YOU *ARE*.
AND *WHAT* IS THAT...?
SETTLE DOWN, BOYS.
YOU'RE A TWO-BIT HOOD WITH DEEP POCKETS AND A MISGUIDED TAILOR. YOU'RE A *THUG*, FISK.

IF YOU REALLY THOUGHT I WAS THOSE THINGS, I DOUBT YOU'D BE STUPID ENOUGH TO TALK TO ME THIS WAY.
BUT YOU DON'T HAVE ANYTHING TO WORRY ABOUT. RIGHT?
MR. FISK. THERE IS A MATTER REQUIRING YOUR ATTENTION AT THE DOOR.
WHAT IS IT?

OH, HELLO, JOSEPH, LONNIE. I FIND IT STRANGE THAT YOU GENTLEMEN GRACED US WITH YOUR PRESENCE.
"JOSEPH"? YOU'RE RIGHT. HE *IS* GETTING FANCY ON US, TOMBSTONE.
OUR INVITES SEEM TO HAVE GOTTEN LOST IN THE MAIL, *WILLY*.
UNFORTUNATE. IF YOU BROUGHT YOUR CHECKBOOKS, I'M SURE WE CAN ACCOMMODATE YOU, *TOMBSTONE*.
I FORGOT MINE, BUT I'M SURE YOU CAN MAKE ROOM FOR A FEW *OLD FRIENDS*. I KNOW YOU'D NEVER FORGET YOUR ROOTS.
HA.
'CUZ IF YOU DID, WE'D BE HAPPY TO REMIND ALL THESE FANCY PEOPLE WHO YOU *REALLY* ARE.
÷GHUK÷ OR YOU COULD REMIND THEM YOURSELF.
SMASH

WAIT YOUR TURN, HAMMERHEAD.

÷GKKK÷

SOMEBODY CALL THE POLICE!
NO!!

NO, THAT WON'T BE NECESSARY. EVERYTHING IS FINE.

THESE MEN WERE JUST LEAVING. IT WAS ALL A BIG MISUNDERSTANDING.

SORRY IF WE RUINED YOUR LITTLE PARTY, WILLY. DON'T BE A STRANGER.
MY APOLOGIES FOR THE COMMOTION, FOLKS. BUT THAT'S NEW YORK CITY, RIGHT?
PLEASE DON'T LEAVE. DINNER WILL BE SERVED SHORTLY, AND NOBODY WILL WANT TO MISS TONIGHT'S ENTERTAINMENT... THE LOVELY DAZZLER!

THE END OF THE NIGHT.

HEY, WILSON. I'M TAKING OFF. I JUST WANTED TO THANK YOU FOR INVITING ME.

ALLOW ME TO WALK YOU OUT. WHAT DID YOU THINK OF DAZZLER?

SHE SOUNDED AWFUL. I STILL HAD A LOVELY TIME, THOUGH.

I'M GLAD SOMEBODY DID.

DON'T SAY THAT.

I THREW A GROWN MAN WHO CALLS HIMSELF TOMBSTONE THROUGH $4,000 WORTH OF SHRIMP AND CAVIAR. THIS WAS NOT THE IMPRESSION I WAS HOPING MY FOUNDATION WOULD MAKE TONIGHT.

WELL, YOU GOT THEIR MONEY, RIGHT?

NO. MANY PEOPLE MAKE THEIR DONATIONS AT THE END OF THE NIGHT.

I EXPECT WE'LL FIND THAT ONCE THE HOODLUMS ARRIVED EVERYONE FELT A *LITTLE* LESS CHARITABLE.

COATS

CAN I ASK-- WHICH IS BOTHERING YOU MORE RIGHT NOW? YOUR CHARITY OR YOUR SOCIAL STANDING?

SERIOUSLY.

YOU WOUND.

SERIOUSLY? I DON'T HAVE THE LUXURY OF SEPARATING THE TWO.

WHEN I WAS A CHILD, I GOT VERY SICK AND SPENT A WEEK IN THE HOSPITAL. IT MEANT MY FAMILY WENT HUNGRY. MY FATHER MADE SURE I NEVER FORGOT THAT SACRIFICE. NOT THAT I WOULD HAVE.

NOW I CAN USE MY SOCIAL STANDING TO RAISE MONEY FOR CHARITY. AND, IN TURN, IT OPENS DOORS FOR ME INTO SOCIAL CIRCLES THAT WOULDN'T OPEN OTHERWISE.

ASCRIBE WHAT MOTIVATIONS TO THAT YOU WANT. *MY* CHECKS WILL STILL CLEAR.

TAXI

DID YOU DECIDE ABOUT MY BOOK YET?

NOT YET...

TAXI

VANESSA MARIANNA MEMORIAL CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL.

"...BUT I'M GETTING CLOSER."

WHO ARE YOU WITH?

I'M ACTUALLY A FREELANCE REPORTER. I WAS WONDERING IF I COULD ASK YOU A FEW QUESTIONS ABOUT WILSON FISK?

YOU GOTTA CALL OUR PRESS OFFICE.

YEAH, THEY ACTUALLY DIDN'T RETURN MY CALLS. I WAS HOPING I COULD JUST TALK TO ANYONE ABOUT MR. FISK'S INVOLVEMENT IN THE HOSPITAL.

YOU HAVE TO LEAVE NOW OR I'LL CALL SECURITY.

THANKS SO *MUCH*. YOU'VE BEEN A HUGE #$&!@*% HELP.

EXCUSE ME--

--DID I HEAR YOU SAY YOU'RE DOING A STORY ON MR. FISK?

OH, YEAH. SORT OF. DO YOU... DO YOU WORK HERE?

NO, OUR DAUGHTER ANYA IS A PATIENT HERE.

OH, I'M SO SORRY. AND DO YOU KNOW MR. FISK?

HE'S THE REASON WE CAN AFFORD TO EVEN *BE* HERE.

YOU MEDIA TYPES ALWAYS WANT TO PORTRAY HIM AS SOME KIND OF VILLAIN, A MONSTER. WHAT'S THE MATTER WITH YOU?

IT'S NOT THAT--

YOU SHOULD BE ASHAMED OF YOURSELF!

SARAH'S APARTMENT. LATER.

SARAH! WHAT THE $^%@?

DAVID, WHAT'S GOING ON? YOU'RE EARLY.

I HAD TO CHANGE TIMES. MY LIFE CAN'T REVOLVE AROUND *YOUR* SCHEDULE.

I'M NOT ASKING YOU TO--

I TRIED TO CALL. DID YOUR CELL PHONE GET TURNED OFF?

HI, KIDS! I'M SO SORRY! MOMMY WAS--

ARE YOU DRINKING AGAIN?

NO, I'M NOT DRINKING! I HAD A WORK THING. AND IT IS *NOT* OKAY TO ASK ME THAT IN FRONT OF OUR CHILDREN.

OH, THEY KNOW WHO THEIR MOTHER IS.

HOW COULD YOU ASK ME THAT AT ALL?!

YOU TELL ME WHAT TO ASK THEN. BECAUSE GOD FORBID I *HURT YOUR FEELINGS*, BUT I REALLY WOULD LOVE TO KNOW-- WHAT IS GOING ON WITH YOU?

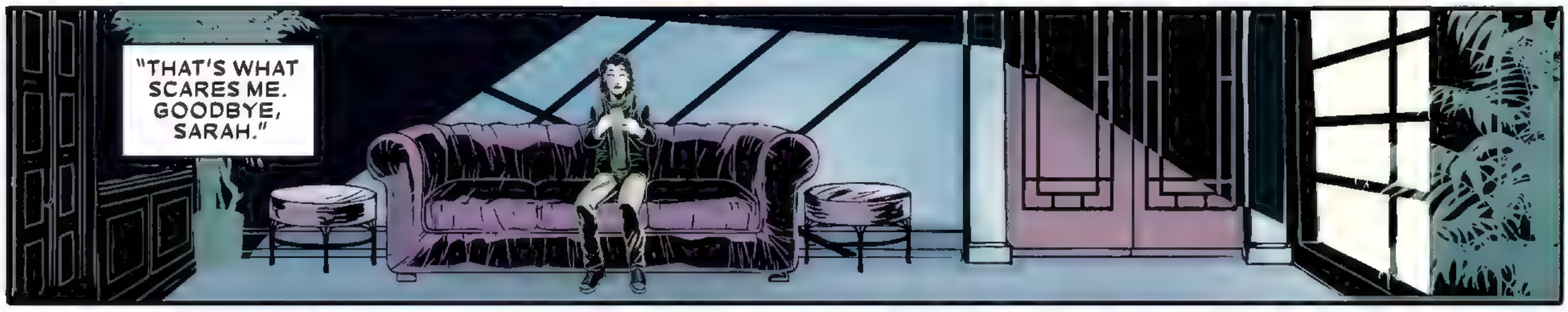
DAVID, YOU CAN'T JUST CHANGE VISITATION TIMES WITHOUT TALKING TO ME.

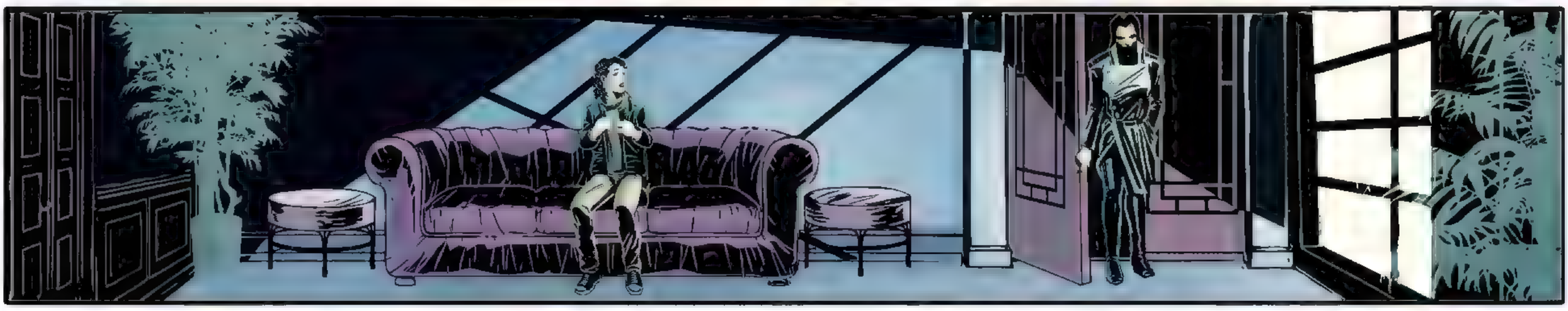
I CAN, ACTUALLY. RE-READ THE AGREEMENT. I MADE A GOOD FAITH EFFORT TO CONTACT YOU.

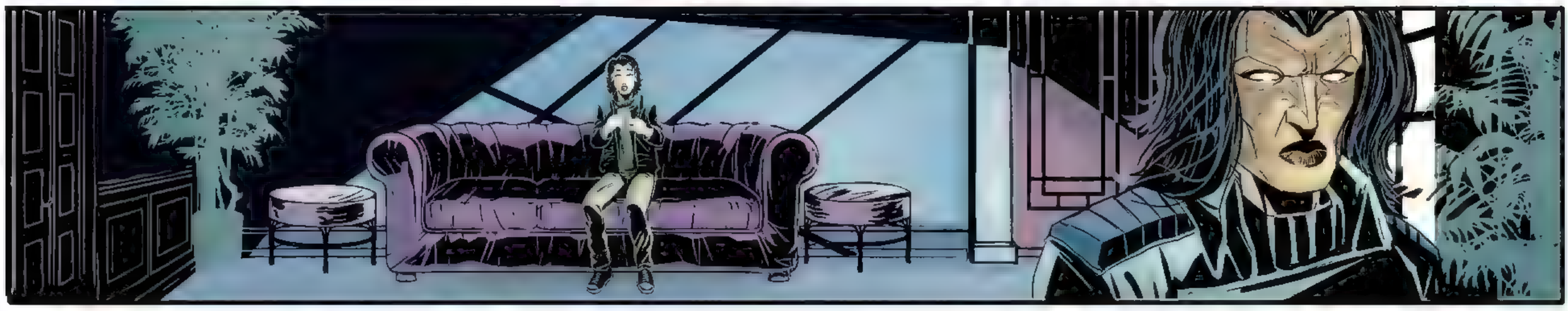
PLEASE, JUST LET ME TAKE THE KIDS INSIDE FOR FIFTEEN MINUTES AND--

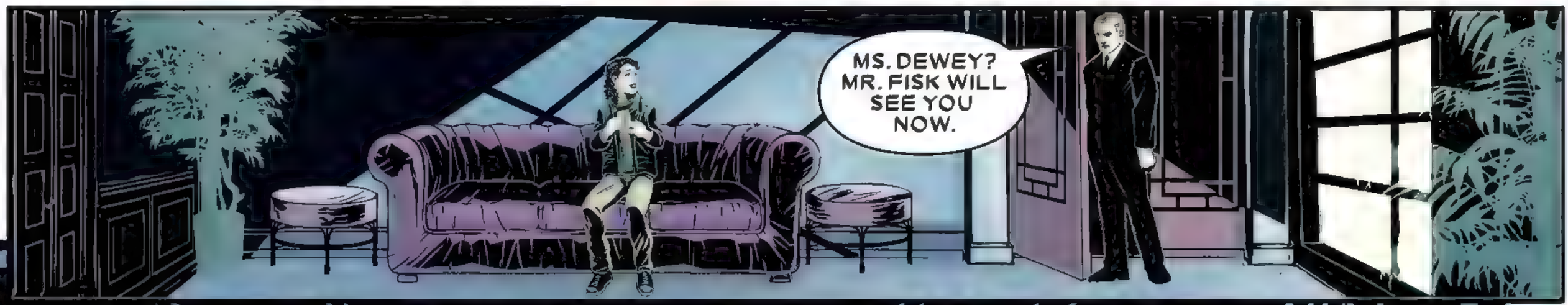
I CAN'T DO THAT, SARAH. YOU RUINED MY PLANS. YOU MISSED YOUR VISIT. AND I AM GOING TO HAVE TO REPORT THIS TO THE JUDGE. FOR YOUR SAKE.

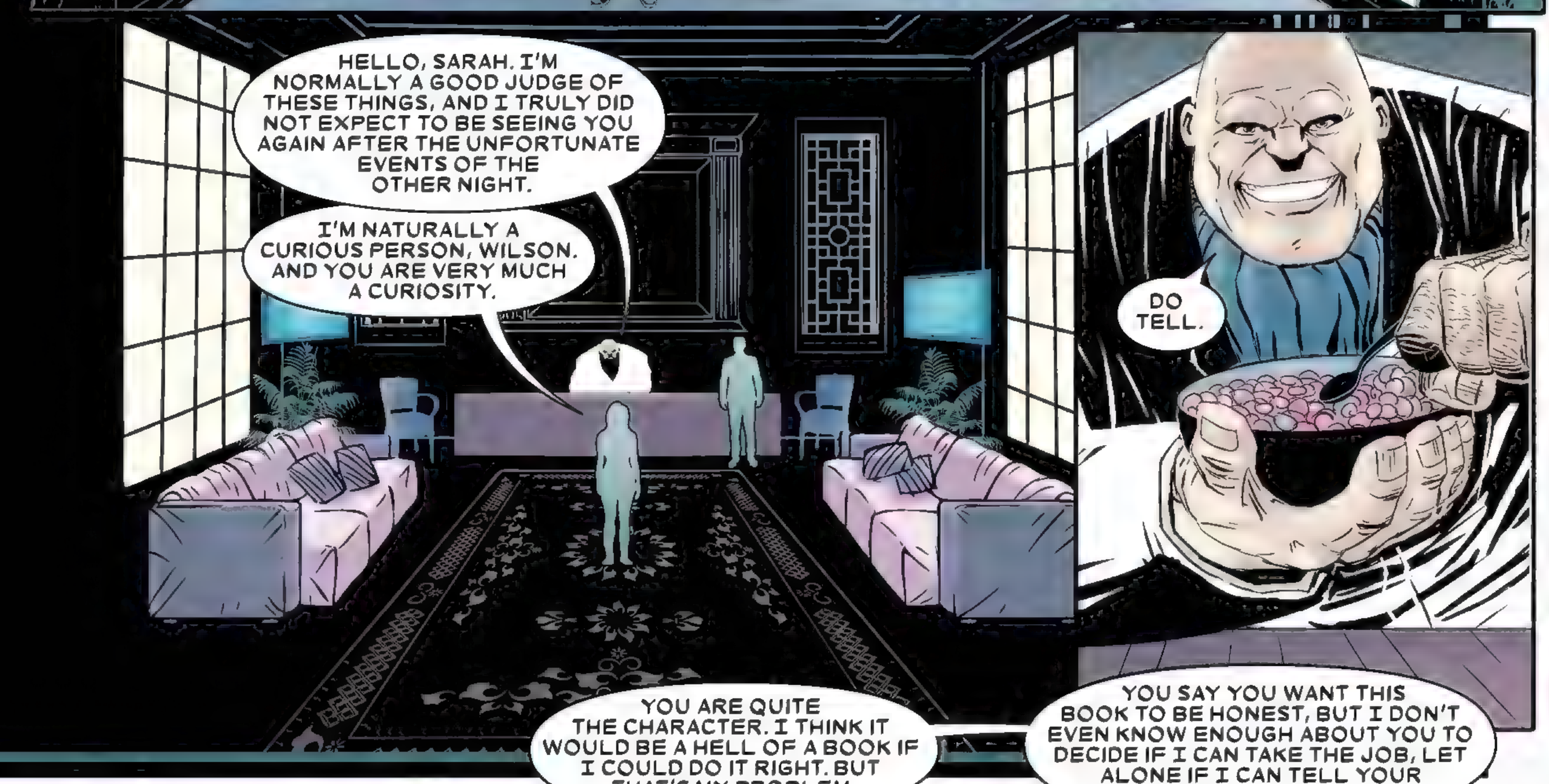
DON'T DO THIS TO ME. YOU CAN'T DO THIS. *I'M DOING THE BEST I CAN!*

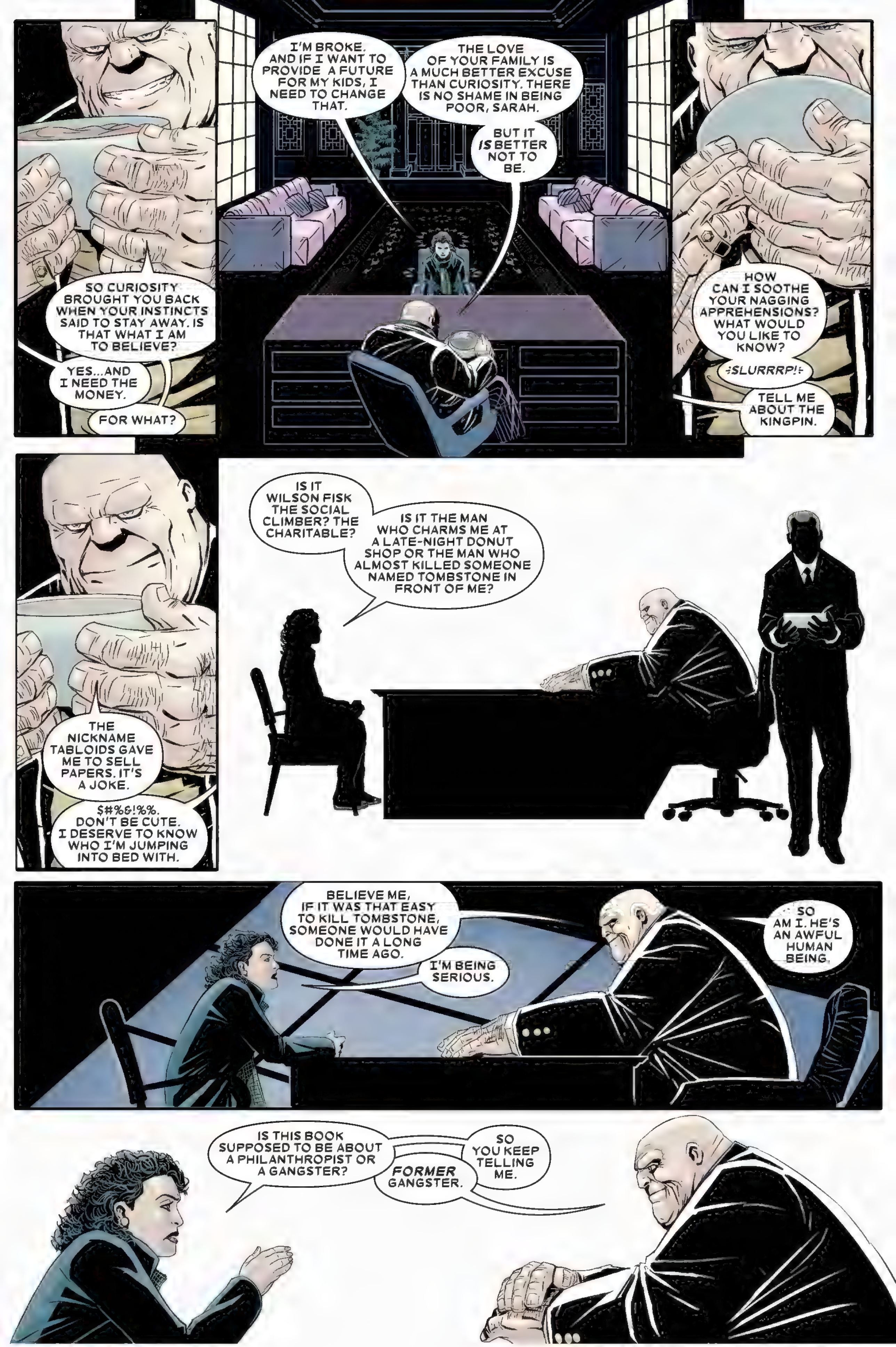

"THAT'S WHAT SCARES ME. GOODBYE, SARAH."






MS. DEWEY? MR. FISK WILL SEE YOU NOW.

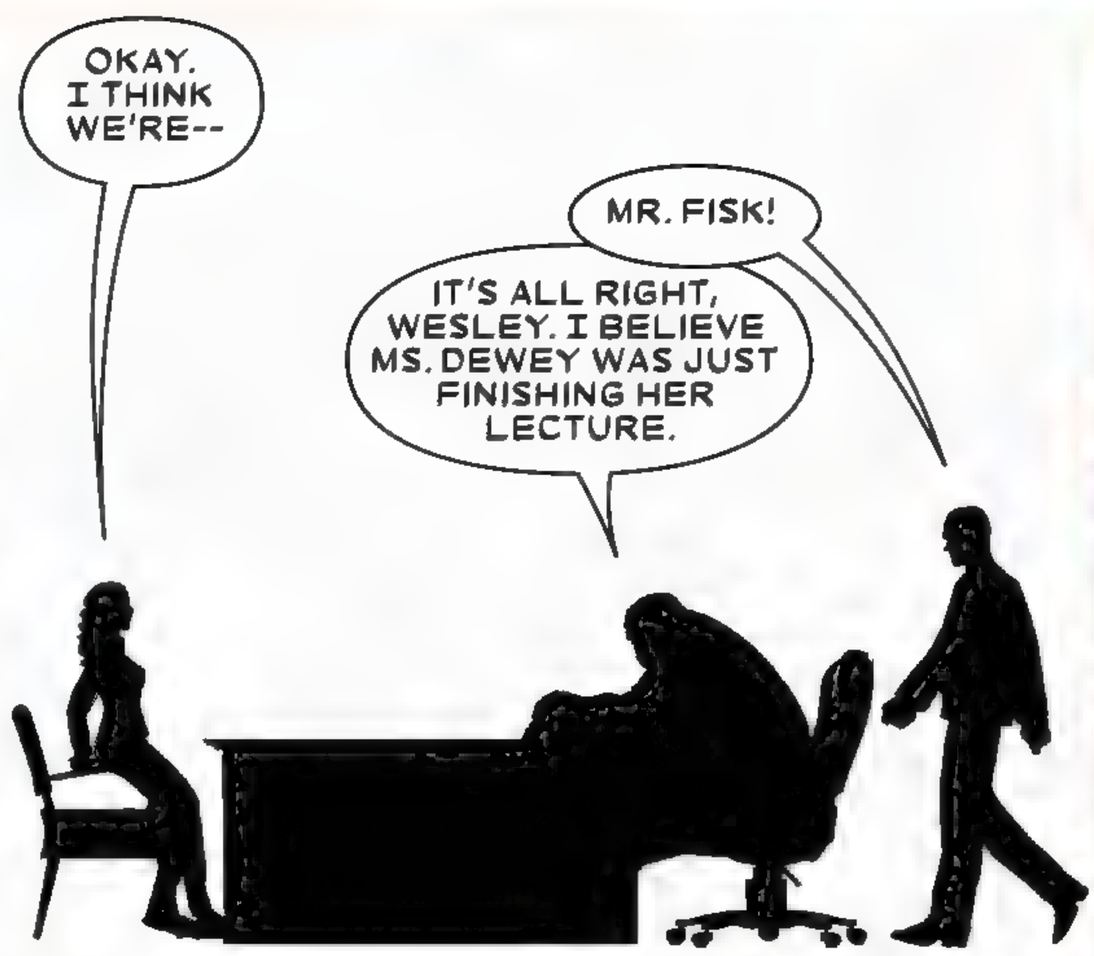

HELLO, SARAH. I'M NORMALLY A GOOD JUDGE OF THESE THINGS, AND I TRULY DID NOT EXPECT TO BE SEEING YOU AGAIN AFTER THE UNFORTUNATE EVENTS OF THE OTHER NIGHT.
I'M NATURALLY A CURIOUS PERSON, WILSON. AND YOU ARE VERY MUCH A CURIOSITY.
DO TELL.
YOU ARE QUITE THE CHARACTER. I THINK IT WOULD BE A HELL OF A BOOK IF I COULD DO IT RIGHT. BUT THAT'S MY PROBLEM.
YOU SAY YOU WANT THIS BOOK TO BE HONEST, BUT I DON'T EVEN KNOW ENOUGH ABOUT YOU TO DECIDE IF I CAN TAKE THE JOB, LET ALONE IF I CAN TELL YOUR HONEST LIFE STORY.


I'M BROKE. AND IF I WANT TO PROVIDE A FUTURE FOR MY KIDS, I NEED TO CHANGE THAT.
THE LOVE OF YOUR FAMILY IS A MUCH BETTER EXCUSE THAN CURIOSITY. THERE IS NO SHAME IN BEING POOR, SARAH.
BUT IT IS BETTER NOT TO BE.
SO CURIOSITY BROUGHT YOU BACK WHEN YOUR INSTINCTS SAID TO STAY AWAY. IS THAT WHAT I AM TO BELIEVE?
YES...AND I NEED THE MONEY.
FOR WHAT?
HOW CAN I SOOTHE YOUR NAGGING APPREHENSIONS? WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE TO KNOW?
SLURRRP!
TELL ME ABOUT THE KINGPIN.
THE NICKNAME TABLOIDS GAVE ME TO SELL PAPERS. IT'S A JOKE.
$#%&!%%. DON'T BE CUTE. I DESERVE TO KNOW WHO I'M JUMPING INTO BED WITH.
IS IT WILSON FISK THE SOCIAL CLIMBER? THE CHARITABLE?
IS IT THE MAN WHO CHARMS ME AT A LATE-NIGHT DONUT SHOP OR THE MAN WHO ALMOST KILLED SOMEONE NAMED TOMBSTONE IN FRONT OF ME?
BELIEVE ME, IF IT WAS THAT EASY TO KILL TOMBSTONE, SOMEONE WOULD HAVE DONE IT A LONG TIME AGO.
I'M BEING SERIOUS.
SO AM I. HE'S AN AWFUL HUMAN BEING.
IS THIS BOOK SUPPOSED TO BE ABOUT A PHILANTHROPIST OR A GANGSTER?
FORMER GANGSTER.
SO YOU KEEP TELLING ME.

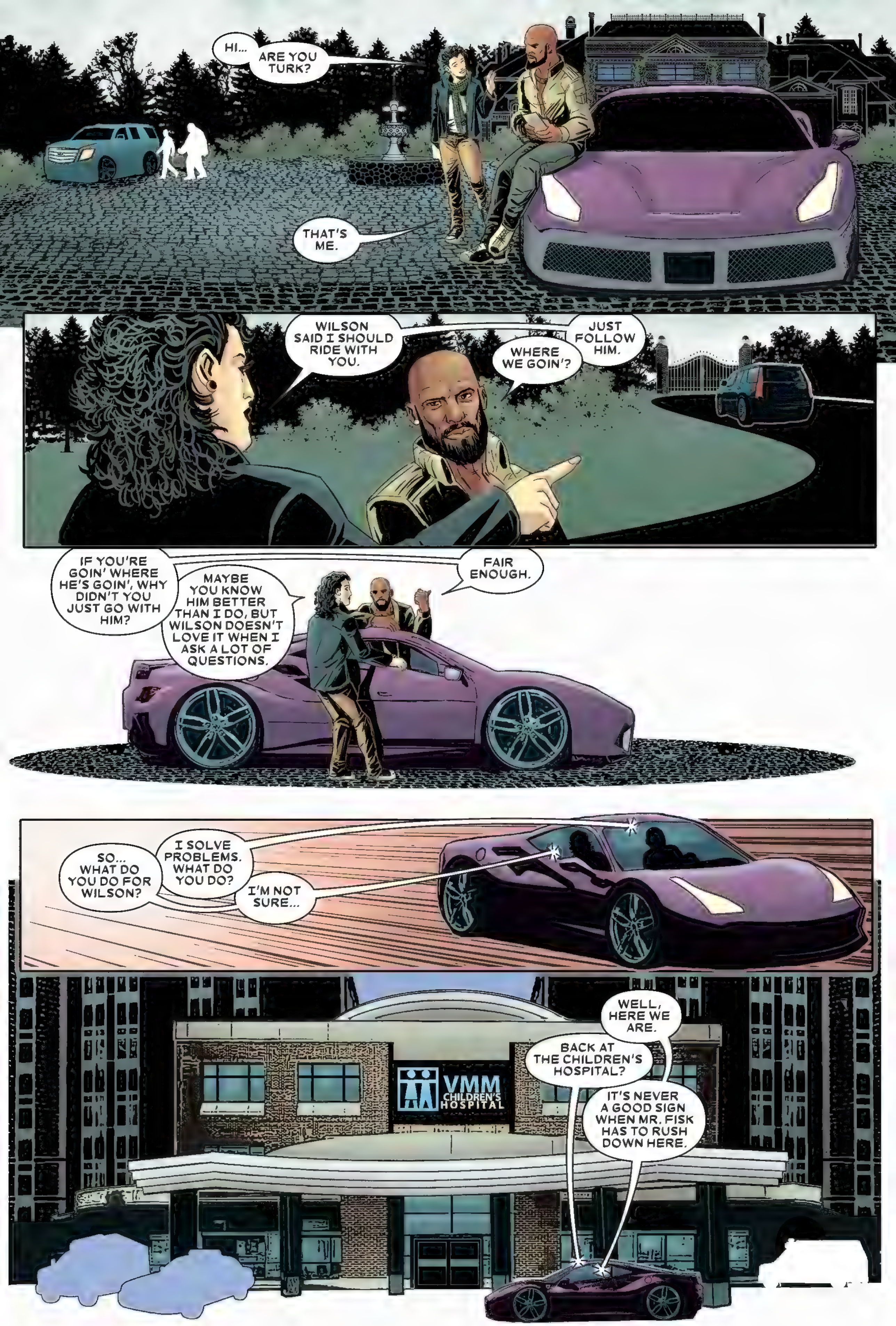
LOOK, I'M A REPORTER, WILSON. ALL I HAVE IS MY REPUTATION--
FORMER REPUTATION.

OKAY. WHY ME?
DO YOU THINK SO LITTLE OF YOUR WORK THAT YOU COULD NOT HAVE GARNERED YOURSELF A FAN?
IF YOU'RE NOT GOING TO ANSWER MY QUESTIONS THEN WHY AM I SITTING HERE?

YOU'VE ALREADY ANSWERED THAT. IT'S BECAUSE YOU LIVE IN A PAINFULLY EMPTY APARTMENT, SURVIVING PAYCHECK TO PAYCHECK, BUT THE DISTANCE BETWEEN THEM KEEPS GETTING FURTHER AND FURTHER APART.


OKAY. I THINK WE'RE--
MR. FISK!
IT'S ALL RIGHT, WESLEY. I BELIEVE MS. DEWEY WAS JUST FINISHING HER LECTURE.

I MUST APOLOGIZE, SARAH. A MATTER OF GREAT PERSONAL IMPORT HAS COME UP AND I NEED TO GO.
I UNDERSTAND YOUR FRUSTRATIONS, BUT I'M AFRAID I DON'T HAVE THE TIME TO ADDRESS YOUR AMPLE LIST OF GRIEVANCES. PERHAPS IT'S BEST IF I JUST THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME?
THAT'S IT? DID YOU JUST FIRE ME?
I BELIEVE YOU FIRED YOURSELF. MY ASSOCIATE TURK WILL TAKE YOU HOME NOW.


HI...
ARE YOU TURK?
THAT'S ME.
WILSON SAID I SHOULD RIDE WITH YOU.
WHERE WE GOIN'?
JUST FOLLOW HIM.
IF YOU'RE GOIN' WHERE HE'S GOIN', WHY DIDN'T YOU JUST GO WITH HIM?
MAYBE YOU KNOW HIM BETTER THAN I DO, BUT WILSON DOESN'T LOVE IT WHEN I ASK A LOT OF QUESTIONS.
FAIR ENOUGH.
SO... WHAT DO YOU DO FOR WILSON?
I SOLVE PROBLEMS. WHAT DO YOU DO?
I'M NOT SURE...
WELL, HERE WE ARE.
BACK AT THE CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL?
IT'S NEVER A GOOD SIGN WHEN MR. FISK HAS TO RUSH DOWN HERE.
VMM CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL

EXCUSE ME, WHO ARE YOU?

I WORK FOR WILSON...FOR MR. FISK. WHAT'S GOING ON?

THEIR DAUGHTER PASSED.

HE TAKES EACH ONE SO HARD.

YOU MIGHT WANT TO WAIT HERE.

MR. FISK, I'M--
DOCTOR D'AMICO, WHAT DID YOU TELL ME ABOUT THAT LITTLE GIRL?

I BELIEVE I SAID THAT THERE WAS A POSSIBILITY THAT THE TREATMENT--
YOU SAID THERE WAS HOPE THAT IT WOULD WORK.
SIR, WE'RE WORKING WITH EXPERIMENTAL--

DID THAT LOOK LIKE *HOPE* TO YOU? I TOLD THEM WHAT YOU SAID. I GAVE THEM MY WORD THERE WAS STILL HOPE. AND WHAT DID YOUR HOPE GET THAT FAMILY?
I'M SORRY, SIR.

IT'S ALL RIGHT, DOCTOR. MY EMOTIONS GET THE BEST OF ME SOMETIMES. PLEASE FORGIVE ME.
OF COURSE.

PLEASE MAKE SURE THAT ALL OF THEIR BILLS ARE SENT TO ME.

HELLO, SARAH. DID YOU ENJOY THE SHOW?
DON'T DO THAT. DON'T PLAY THIS OFF.
Cafe Fresco
THAT WAS IT, WILSON. THAT WAS WHY YOU HIRED ME. YOU WANTED ME TO FIND THE MOMENTS THAT WOULD MAKE PEOPLE UNDERSTAND YOU.
THAT WAS WEAKNESS.

DID YOU KNOW HER?
ANYA? YES. NOT WELL.
BUT I KNEW HER. SHE WAS A VERY GENTLE CHILD. I'M ASHAMED OF MAKING HER FAMILY BELIEVE SHE HAD A CHANCE.

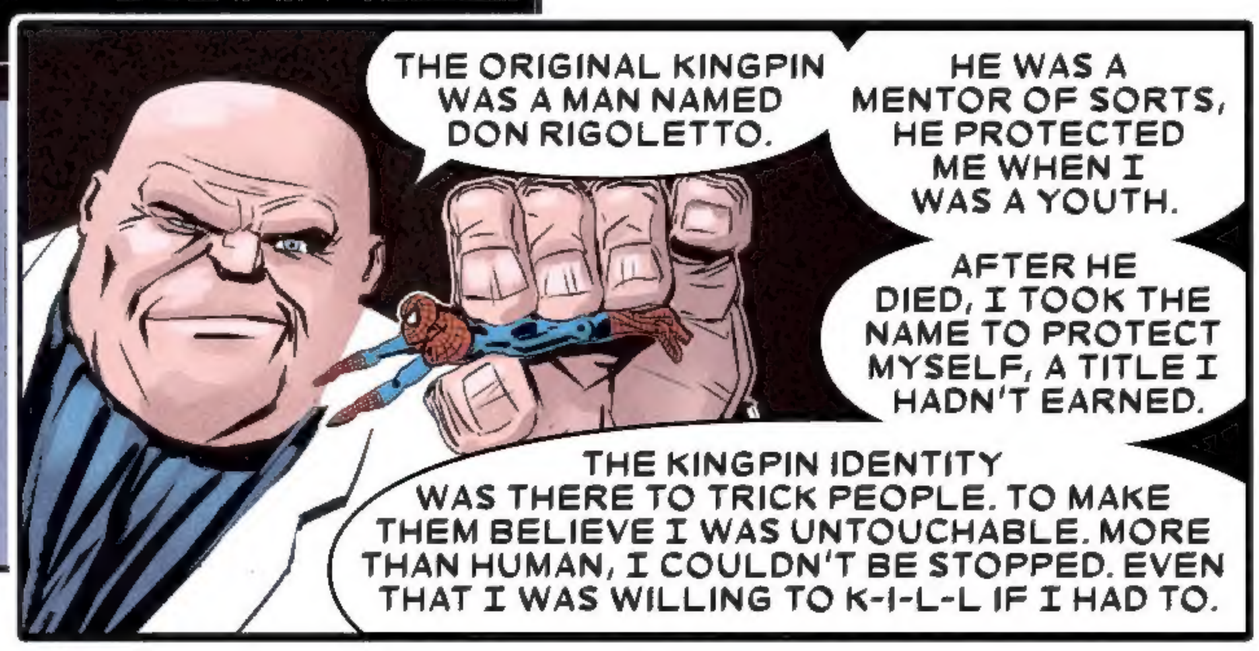
THAT ISN'T WEAKNESS. IT'S HUMANITY.
COME WITH ME.

HELLO, MARK. HELLO, CHRISTOPHER.
MR. FISK! MR. FISK!

THIS IS MY FRIEND SARAH. SHE REALLY WANTED TO MEET YOU GUYS.
HI, SARAH!

IN THE PAST, THE THINGS I CARE ABOUT, MY FRIENDS, MY SON... MY WIFE. THEY HAVE BEEN USED AGAINST ME. *TURNED* AGAINST ME, EVEN.
WHEN I SAY SOMETHING IS WEAKNESS AND YOU TELL ME IT'S JUST HUMANITY...WE AREN'T SAYING DIFFERENT THINGS.

SO THAT'S WHY THE KINGPIN EXISTS?
DOES THIS MEAN YOU'RE TAKING THE JOB?
YES.


THE ORIGINAL KINGPIN WAS A MAN NAMED DON RIGOLETTO.
HE WAS A MENTOR OF SORTS, HE PROTECTED ME WHEN I WAS A YOUTH.
AFTER HE DIED, I TOOK THE NAME TO PROTECT MYSELF, A TITLE I HADN'T EARNED.
THE KINGPIN IDENTITY WAS THERE TO TRICK PEOPLE. TO MAKE THEM BELIEVE I WAS UNTOUCHABLE. MORE THAN HUMAN, I COULDN'T BE STOPPED. EVEN THAT I WAS WILLING TO K-I-L-L IF I HAD TO.

BUT YOU *DID* K-I-L-L PEOPLE.
WHAT ARE YOU SPELLING?
BELIEVE
DREAM BIG
FLY HIGH

BAD WORDS. BUT I'M BRIBING YOU SO YOU WILL FORGET THIS HAPPENED, OKAY?
OKAY!

YES, I DID. I K-I-L-L-E-D A LOT OF *BAD* MEN. EVIL MEN. MEN WHO WOULD HAVE GONE ON TO HURT A LOT OF PEOPLE IF I HADN'T.
BUT THAT DOESN'T CHANGE WHAT I DID.

WE NEED TO TALK.

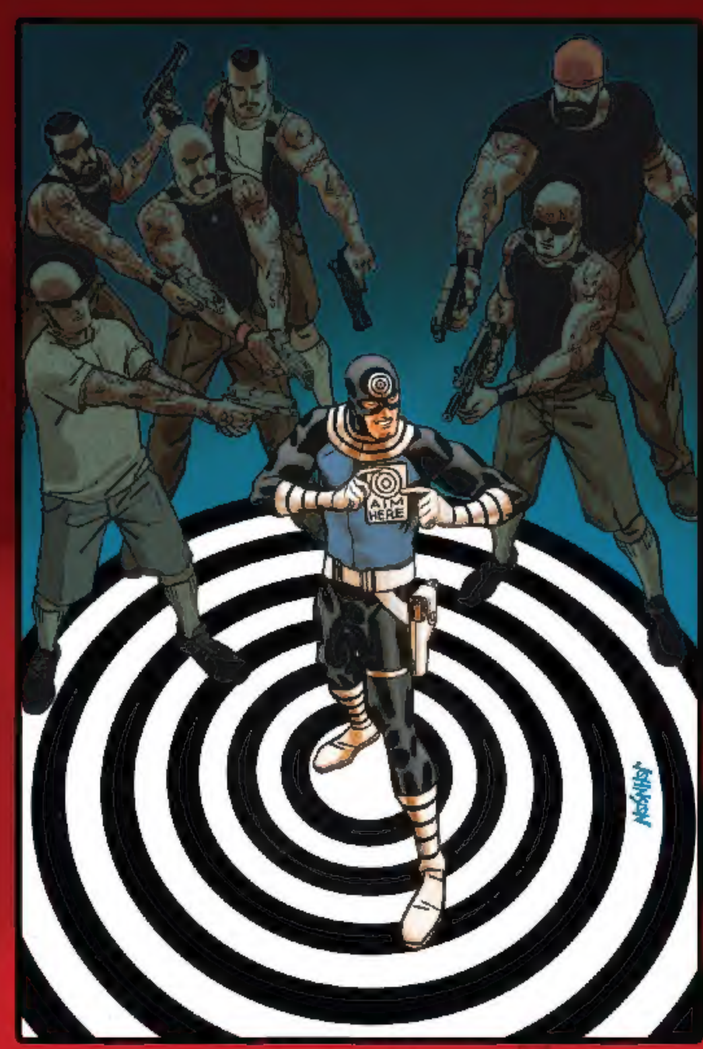
TO BE CONTINUED...

NEXT ISSUE:

BY THE THROAT!

KINGPIN #3

ALSO ON SALE THIS MONTH



BULLSEYE #2

DAREDEVIL #18

ELEKTRA #2

ZONE